

2021 IN REVIEW



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FROM ABIGAIL

As I reflect on the opportunities and challenges of the past year, I would first like to say that it is the greatest honor of my life to serve Virginia's Seventh District in the U.S. House.

The start of 2021 was dominated by the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. As a new Congress was sworn in, we urgently needed to support Virginia's small businesses, families, schools, and local governments—as well as facilitate the rapid deployment of vaccines. In March 2021, I proudly voted to pass the American Rescue Plan, and I continue to hear from many Virginians about how this package delivered relief in their personal moment of crisis or uncertainty.

The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated many pre-existing healthcare challenges—including rising prescription drug costs. In response, I have remained laser-focused on lowering drug prices for Virginia's seniors and families in 2021. In Congress, I continue to prioritize bipartisan legislation that can make these medications cheaper, hold middlemen in the pharmaceutical industry accountable, and reduce our dependence on foreign countries for these drugs. Additionally, I have been one of the most vocal proponents of giving Medicare the power to negotiate drug prices for Virginia's seniors.

2021 brought a major win to the Commonwealth in the form of the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act—legislation I helped negotiate and get across the finish line. This law invests billions in Virginia's physical infrastructure, creates thousands of new jobs right here in the Commonwealth, and ensures our economy remains competitive with nations like China. I am proud that we worked with both Democrats and Republicans to respond to the infrastructure needs of our communities.

In this progress report, I hope you will find useful information about a few of my key priorities and accomplishments in 2021. During my second term, I have remained committed to supporting Virginia's veterans. I have continued to prioritize the expansion of addiction treatment and recovery services in our communities, particularly as we saw a record number of overdose deaths here in Virginia this past year. And I continue to support commonsense efforts to protect our democracy, defend the right to vote, combat the climate crisis, and strengthen our national security.

Before I close, I also want you to know that one of my primary responsibilities is assisting constituents with federal agencies. Whether in dealing with the Internal Revenue Service (IRS), the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), or many other agencies, my team and I work hard to get questions answered. Each day, we also attempt to return backlogged federal benefits to the Virginians who have earned them and backlogged refunds to the constituents still awaiting them. In 2021 alone, we returned more than \$6 million to Virginians. Since taking office, I am proud to report that we have returned more than \$10 million to the Seventh District.

If you need assistance or have any questions, please call my office at (804) 401-4110. I hope you and your family are staying safe, and I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Thank you,



CONGRESSWOMAN VIRGINIA'S 7TH DISTRICT
ABIGAIL SPANBERGER



2021 BY THE NUMBERS



\$6 MILLION+

returned to Central Virginians
(\$10.8 million since taking office)



81,000+

responses to emails,
calls, and letters



2,300+

constituent cases
closed



369

measures cosponsored
82% bipartisan



28

bills introduced
96% bipartisan



11

town halls and
public forums



5

U.S. Cabinet Secretary
visits to VA-07



#1

Most Bipartisan Member
of Congress from Virginia
(second year in a row)



#4

Most Bipartisan
House Democrat

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN

ABIGAIL DELIVERS COVID-19 RELIEF TO VIRGINIANS

This year, Abigail's office sent a survey asking Seventh District residents to let her know how they were impacted by the American Rescue Plan—which Abigail proudly voted to pass in March 2021. Below are a few of those stories:

“ I want to thank Rep. Abigail Spanberger for her support of the American Rescue Plan. My wife was an insurance estimator and was laid off over one year ago. When the pandemic hit, we were uncertain of how we would be able to pay our bills and put food on the table. The unemployment support and the extension of those benefits helped us make it through those dark times. Without Congresswoman Spanberger's commitment to stand with and by her constituents, I don't know where my family would be today.”

Robert, Spotsylvania

“ Because we had completed our tax returns and both of us are receiving Social Security, our stimulus checks were direct deposited into my checking account. All three were deposited within five working days of the start of day they started to be delivered. Thank you for supporting these checks.”

J. Harold A., Culpeper

“ Stimulus money made living for this senior affordable. With grocery and drug prices through the roof it helped to buy both medicine and food.”

Linda, Chesterfield

“ The stimulus payments helped a portion of the middle class that seldom gets a break or reward. My checks were used to revitalize the economy.”

Juanita, Henrico

“ PPP allowed me to keep everyone in our rural business employed through the entire pandemic. Thank you!!”

Patti, Nottoway

“ It cut my ACA premiums by almost \$500 way more than half. As a 64-year old retiree, not yet eligible for Medicare, this was a huge relief! Thank you!!!”

Katherine, Chesterfield



And in August 2021, Abigail launched a constituent survey focused on the American Rescue Plan's enhanced, advance Child Tax Credit payments. Here is what Virginia parents had to say:

“ The child tax credit has helped us pay for the daycare for both our children so that my husband and I can continue to work full time.”

Lauren, Chesterfield

“ What a huge help! I wish we could always take our child tax credit throughout the year! It has afforded us the ease of mind to pay for preschool, back to school supplies, and to allow the boys to play a sport this fall.”

Ashley, Goochland

“ Thank you so much, Rep. Spanberger, for fighting so hard for our district! My husband has medical problems, and this money has really helped us keep food in our refrigerator! Thank you!”

Jaime, Spotsylvania

“ My family and I have been able to afford the cost of food and other household expenses without the worry of having to wait on my next paycheck from my job as a local school teacher.”

Delonna, Spotsylvania



BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE LAW

A WIN FOR VIRGINIA'S ECONOMY

One of Abigail's top priorities in 2021 was getting a bipartisan infrastructure bill to President Biden's desk. In November 2021, she proudly stood at the White House as the President signed the legislation into law—delivering an estimated \$7 billion to build and repair Virginia highways, more than \$530 million for bridge replacement, an additional \$100 million for broadband internet expansion, and approximately \$739 million to strengthen Virginia's pipes and water infrastructure.

Following the legislation's passage, several Virginia organizations—representing the region's agriculture, forestry, telecommunications, healthcare, transportation, and recreation sectors—spoke out in support of the bipartisan legislation's historic investments in physical infrastructure projects in the Commonwealth and across the country. Here are a few examples:

“ Roads and bridges are not political—we all drive on them. A majority in the House of Representatives realized this and did what's right for the country. From farmers to truckers, the millions of hard-working people who make this country great won on Friday. This bill represents a significant investment in our nation's roads and bridges with a 38% increase in funding and delivers a desperately needed injection into the Highway Trust Fund to keep it solvent. We are also pleased that the bill provides an infusion of highly-trained, younger talent into our workforce to help address the shortage of qualified truck drivers,” said **Dale Bennett, President & CEO, Virginia Trucking Association.**

“ The proud men and women of North America's Building Trades Unions are ready to go to work,” said **Sean McGarvey, President, North America's Building Trades Unions (NABTU).** “We commend Rep. Spanberger for her unwavering commitment to passing the historic Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act for the American people. This critical investment to rebuild dilapidated water, transportation, communications and energy infrastructure across the nation will strengthen communities, create millions of family-sustaining jobs, and secure America's global standing.”



“ The Fredericksburg Regional Chamber was pleased to see the passage of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (H.R. 3684) in the U.S. House of Representatives. The Chamber strongly supports much-needed improvements to our roads and bridges and expanded high-speed broadband access. As the voice of business for the Fredericksburg Region, we look forward to seeing the positive impacts the passage of H.R. 3684 will have on our area and our state,” said **Susan Spears, President & CEO, Fredericksburg Regional Chamber of Commerce.**

“ The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act is a critical and important investment in our nation’s aging infrastructure,” said **Brian Anderson, President & CEO, ChamberRVA.** The bipartisan legislation provides needed resources for roads, bridges, broadband, rail, and airports around the US and specifically in the Commonwealth. Delayed maintenance is tremendously more expensive than maintaining our infrastructure on a timely and routine basis. The estimated \$8 billion for Virginia is an investment in economy and will improve the lives of all Virginians.”

“ Firefly Fiber Broadband applauds the federal level commitment with this infrastructure bill to make universal broadband service a reality, and we appreciate Representative Spanberger for beating the drum for broadband support throughout her tenure in Congress,” said **Gary Wood, President & CEO, Central Virginia Electric Cooperative and Firefly Fiber Broadband.** “In an age when broadband access has become an essential service, the funding is critical in rural areas to assure every family and business has reliable, affordable high speed internet access.”



WORKING FOR VIRGINIA

CREATING GOOD-PAYING JOBS & INVESTING IN OUR PHYSICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Abigail Pushes Bipartisan Infrastructure Law Across the Finish Line, Highlights Importance of Investments for Virginia's Economy

Abigail has long pushed for major investments in the Commonwealth's infrastructure—and she worked throughout 2021 to move the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act forward. In April 2021, she joined fellow Members of the bipartisan Problem Solvers Caucus at the White House to discuss a path forward on these much-needed investments. Later that month, Abigail convened with a bipartisan group of U.S. Senators, U.S. Representatives, and Governors—including Virginia Governor Ralph Northam and Maryland Governor Larry Hogan, to

discuss shared physical infrastructure priorities in several U.S. states. Then, in October 2021, Abigail and Virginia Governor Ralph Northam joined representatives from several Virginia labor and business organizations to highlight job-creating benefits of the bipartisan infrastructure package that was then awaiting action in the U.S. House—and to call for its swift passage. And in November 2021, Abigail voted to pass the bipartisan bill and subsequently went to the White House to watch the legislation become law. (Culpeper Star-Exponent, 10/5/21; NBC12, 10/7/21; Richmond Times-Dispatch, 10/9/21; NBC12, 10/12/21; CBS6, 11/8/21; New York Times, 11/9/21; Rep. Spanberger, 11/15/21, NBC12, 11/15/21; 8News, 11/15/21)



Abigail Delivers Billions for Virginia Broadband Expansion through American Rescue Plan Funding

Through the Abigail-championed American Rescue Plan, Virginia Governor Ralph Northam and the Virginia General Assembly dedicated \$700 million towards achieving universal broadband internet access across the Commonwealth. Following the passage of the American Rescue Plan, Abigail repeatedly met with local businesses, elected officials, electrical cooperatives, and families to discuss how the federal, state, and local government can work together to close the digital divide with this game-changing investment. (Richmond Times-Dispatch, 4/30/21; Courthouse News Service, 8/17/21; Richmond Times-Dispatch, 8/21/21; NBC12, 12/13/21; Fredericksburg Free Lance-Star, 12/14/21)

Abigail Brings Secretary Buttigieg to the Seventh District, Touts Bipartisan Infrastructure Law & Discusses Supply Chain Fixes

In December 2021, Abigail brought U.S. Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg to the Seventh District to celebrate the job-creating provisions of the bipartisan infrastructure law. Secretary Buttigieg joined Abigail at a construction site in Henrico County, where Woodman Road is being extended to connect areas of new development and to alleviate traffic congestion. At the site, they also stood at the front of the entrance of the new Fall Line Trail—which could be eligible for additional physical infrastructure investments through the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. Abigail and Secretary Buttigieg also met with Virginia employers, business organizations, and labor leaders to learn more about how the bipartisan infrastructure law can alleviate challenges related to the nation's supply chains. (Richmond Times-Dispatch, 12/3/21; NBC12, 12/3/21; 8News, 12/3/21; Henrico Citizen, 12/6/21; Rep. Spanberger, 12/7/21)

Abigail Brings Secretary Granholm to Virginia, Highlights Importance of Infrastructure Investments

Abigail has long seen the importance of making smart investments that can create family-sustaining, clean energy jobs. In August 2021, Abigail hosted U.S. Department of Energy Secretary Jennifer M. Granholm in the Seventh District to highlight the economic benefits of the bipartisan infrastructure legislation. Abigail brought Secretary Granholm to the site of the GreenCity ecodistrict development in Henrico County, where they were joined by Henrico County leaders, GreenCity developers, and additional community members—and they then toured a training facility for the next generation of Virginia electrical workers with members from the IBEW Local 666, IBEW Local Union 50, and Richmond Electricians' JATC. (8News, 8/12/21; Rep. Spanberger, 8/17/21; Richmond Times-Dispatch, 8/27/21)

President Biden Signs into Law Abigail's Legislation to Increase Broadband Internet Speeds

Abigail's Speedy Updates Act—which was signed into law as part of the bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act—ensures that new broadband internet networks are built with up-to-date upload and download capabilities. Specifically, her legislation requires the Government Accountability Office to conduct an evaluation and write a report on the FCC's existing process for establishing, reviewing, and updating its speed thresholds for broadband internet service. (Broadband Breakfast, 3/10/21; Rep. Spanberger, 12/7/21)

RECOVERING & REBUILDING FROM THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Abigail Votes to Send American Rescue Plan to President Biden's Desk

In March 2021, Abigail voted with a majority of U.S. House to pass the American Rescue Plan, a necessary COVID-19 relief package that has delivered direct support to Virginia families, healthcare providers, schools, and small businesses. The package included many priorities Abigail worked to include—such as additional funding for COVID-19 vaccination and testing efforts, support for Virginia's local restaurants and small businesses, extended unemployment insurance, and another round of direct payments to individuals. After becoming law, the American Rescue Plan extended the Paycheck Protection Program, established the Restaurant Revitalization Fund, and allocated millions of dollars directly to Virginia school districts. (NPR, 3/9/21; Rep. Spanberger, 3/10/21; Richmond Times-Dispatch, 3/6/21; Richmond Times-Dispatch, 3/11/21; 8News, 4/1/21; Richmond Times-Dispatch, 4/6/21; 8News, 6/7/21; AP, 6/10/21)

Abigail Champions Expanded, Refundable Child Tax Credit for Virginia Families

The American Rescue Plan expanded the Child Tax Credit from \$2,000 per child to as much as \$3,600 per child in 2021. Additionally, the legislation ensured that this credit is fully refundable. Since payments began arriving in July 2021, Abigail has heard directly from Virginia families about how the expanded Child Tax Credit has provided additional financial peace of mind. Additionally, she has pressed her colleagues to make sure the refundable Child Tax Credit can continue into the future, and advocated for its inclusion in the Build Back Better framework. (Rep. Spanberger, 7/9/21; Richmond Times-Dispatch, 7/11/21; CBS19, 7/12/21; Virginia Mercury, 7/13/21; Virginia Public Radio, 7/13/21; CBS6, 11/11/21)

Abigail Successfully Pushes HHS to Increase Focus on Community Pharmacies in COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution

As the federal government boosted vaccine distribution in early 2021, Abigail led a bipartisan effort calling on HHS to allow community pharmacists to take a larger leadership role in vaccine distribution. Abigail specifically pointed to the flexibility community pharmacists have to cut through red tape and reduce paperwork burdens for their patients. Following her push, the administration announced that independent pharmacies would be included in the rollout of the Federal Retail Pharmacy Program. (Richmond Times-Dispatch, 1/29/21; Rep. Spanberger, 2/2/21; Richmond Times-Dispatch, 2/5/21)

Abigail Breaks Dam on Healthcare Provider Support During Omicron Surge, Announces \$163 Million for Virginia Frontline Workers

Throughout the pandemic, Abigail has heard from Virginia healthcare providers about how the Provider Relief Fund (PRF)—which is meant to support local hospitals, clinics, and assisted living facilities and their employees during the pandemic—has been plagued by issues that have slowed distributions of funds. In response to these delays, Abigail pressed the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to quickly release this funding in April 2021—and she introduced bipartisan legislation in November 2021 to pressure HHS to distribute this funding and protect frontline healthcare workers. After repeatedly pushing HHS, Abigail announced \$163 million to support Virginia's healthcare workforce through the PRF in December 2021. (McKnights Senior Living, 11/18/21; Culpeper Star-Exponent, 12/15/21; Rep. Spanberger, 12/15/21)



Abigail Hosts Five-Stop Virginia Farm Tour, Stresses Need to Stand with Crop & Livestock Producers During Economic Recovery

In September 2021, Abigail—the only Member of Congress from Virginia serving on the U.S. House Agriculture Committee—conducted a five-stop Central Virginia farm tour to meet with the region’s crop and livestock producers, farm families, and agribusinesses. During her visits, she learned more about how they are responding to the economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, how Congress can cut red tape and restrictions, and how she can use her position as Chair of the Conservation and Forestry Subcommittee to support voluntary conservation initiatives throughout the region. Throughout her tour, she was joined by representatives from the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation, Farm Credit of the Virginias, and the Virginia Agribusiness Council. (Culpeper Star-Exponent, 9/8/21; Rep. Spanberger, 9/9/21; Wall Street Journal, 9/14/21, Culpeper Times, 9/16/21; RFD-TV, 9/16/21)

Abigail Brings USDA Secretary to Virginia’s Seventh District

In June 2021, Abigail hosted U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Secretary Tom Vilsack in Amelia County for a roundtable discussion with Virginia farmers, producers, and agribusinesses. At Featherstone Farm, Secretary Vilsack and Abigail heard from dozens of local farmers about many issues—including trade concerns, export opportunities, conservation efforts, questions about consolidation in the agriculture industry, and broadband internet connectivity. During the event, they also learned more about how expanded broadband internet access through the American Rescue Plan has the potential to transform Virginia’s rural communities and go the extra mile to increase economic opportunities for area families, businesses, and farms. (8News, 6/18/21; Rep. Spanberger, 6/18/21; Farm Progress, 6/21/21; RFD-TV, 6/21/21)



Abigail Introduces Bipartisan Bill to Address Virginia's Hiring Challenges

After hearing concerns from Virginia workers and businesses, Abigail introduced the bipartisan SUPPORT for New Workers Act in June 2021. This bill would provide \$180 weekly incentive payments to Virginians who find new jobs after being unemployed during the COVID-19 crisis—allowing them to cover transition costs while also tackling hiring issues faced by Virginia's small businesses and restaurants. Soon after its introduction, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce backed the SUPPORT for New Workers Act. (Fox Business, 6/19/21; CBS6, 6/22/21; Richmond Times-Dispatch, 6/22/21; Rep. Spanberger, 6/30/21)

SBA Administrator Joins Abigail in Henrico County to Discuss Support for Independent Venues & Small Businesses

In 2020, Abigail successfully pushed to include the Save Our Stages Act in the December COVID-19 relief package, which provided federal grants through the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) to independent venue operators. In July

2021, Abigail followed up and brought SBA Administrator Isabel Guzman to The Tin Pan in Henrico County to hear more about the impacts of federal support for live venues—and to understand how Congress can provide greater resources and flexibility to affected entertainment venue operators. (8News, 7/26/21; Rep. Spanberger, 7/29/21)

Abigail Introduces Bipartisan Bill to Help Small Businesses Afford PPE & Safety Improvements

Investments in personal protective equipment (PPE), testing supplies, and workplace COVID-19 safety training can be costly for small businesses—particularly as they work to meet federal, state, and industry safety guidance. In February 2021, Abigail and U.S. Representative Young Kim (R-CA-39) introduced bipartisan legislation—the Getting Americans Safely Back to Work Act—to establish a new grant program to help small businesses and essential employers acquire PPE and implement other workplace safety measures. (CBS News, 2/8/21; Rep. Spanberger, 2/9/21)

INCREASING OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL VIRGINIA STUDENTS

Abigail Hosts U.S. Secretary of Education in Henrico County, Champions Benefits of American Rescue Plan Ahead of New School Year

In August 2021, Abigail brought U.S. Department of Education Secretary Miguel Cardona to Glen Allen High School in Henrico County to help kick off the new school year and discuss federal support to Virginia schools through the American Rescue Plan. During the event, Abigail and Secretary Cardona were joined by Virginia Governor Ralph Northam as they met with local students, heard from Virginia administrators and educators, and learned more about how local schools have adapted to the COVID-19 pandemic, kept schools open, and worked to protect students and staff. The American Rescue Plan provided more than \$70 million for Henrico County Public Schools, alone, to rebuild from the crisis. (NBC12, 8/18/21; 8News, 8/18/21; Henrico Citizen, 8/18/21; Rep. Spanberger 8/24/21)

Abigail Introduces Bipartisan, Bicameral Bill to Extend Pell Grant Eligibility to Virginia Workforce Training Programs

Abigail's JOBS Act—which she introduced in March 2021—would extend Pell Grant eligibility to qualified career education programs that are

between 150 and 600 hours and at least eight weeks in length. This provision would create more paths for Virginia students to afford an education that qualifies them to fill job openings in areas where employers have typically found difficulty in filling open positions. A companion bill is led in the U.S. Senate by U.S. Senators Tim Kaine (D-VA) and Rob Portman (R-OH). (Rep. Spanberger, 3/18/21; NBC29, 3/19/21; CBS19, 3/24/21)

Abigail Leads Effort to Allow Virginia Students to Use 529 Savings Plans to Pay for Workforce Training Programs

Abigail's bipartisan legislation—the Freedom to Invest in Tomorrow's Workforce Act—would give Virginians the freedom to use their "529" savings plans to cover the costs of certain workforce training and credentialing programs. Additionally, the bill would allow students to use their 529 funds to pay for associated costs related to certification exams and maintenance of certification credentials. Right now, only colleges, vocational schools, universities, or other post-secondary institutions are considered an eligible 529 education savings plan expense. Introduced in March 2021, Abigail's legislation is endorsed by Virginia529. (Rep. Spanberger 3/24/21; Yahoo Finance, 3/24/21)



LOWERING HEALTHCARE COSTS AND DRUG PRICES FOR VIRGINIA SENIORS & FAMILIES

Abigail Preserves Medicare Drug Price Negotiation in House-Passed Build Back Better Framework

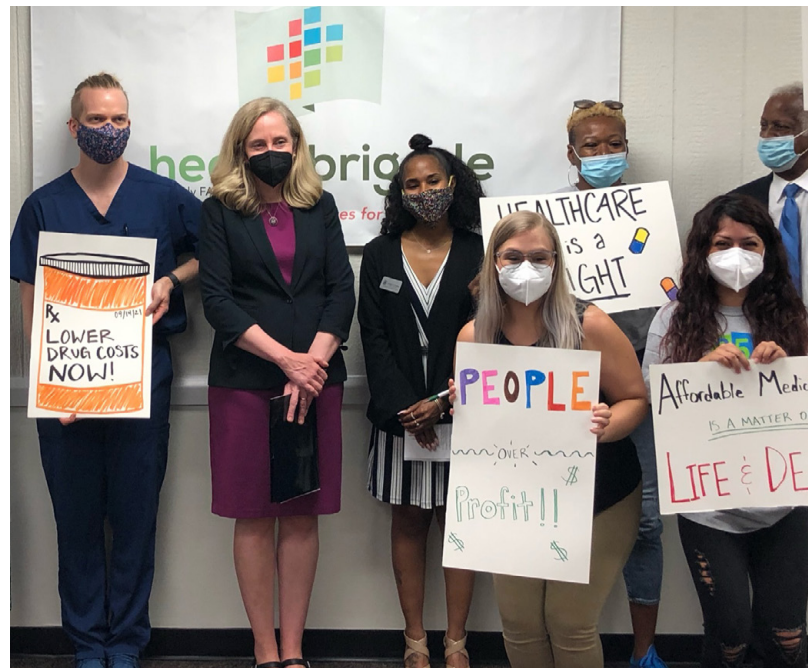
Since arriving in the U.S. House, Abigail has been a vocal supporter of giving Medicare the power to negotiate prescription drug prices. After Medicare drug price negotiation was initially stripped from a draft version of the Build Back Better framework, Abigail spearheaded an effort to preserve this provision and help lower costs for Virginia seniors and families. As a result, Medicare negotiation was included in the House-passed legislation in November 2021. (Wall Street Journal, 9/14/21; Washington Post, 9/23/21; CBS19, 10/4/21; NPR, 11/16/21; Rep. Spanberger 11/19/21)

Abigail Works to Protect Affordable Medicine for Virginia Patients

In July 2021, Abigail led the introduction of a bipartisan bill that would prohibit insurers and pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) from hurting hospitals and clinics that participate in the federal 340B Drug Pricing Program. Her PROTECT 340B Act is in response to concerns from Virginia healthcare providers—particularly those in rural areas—who have seen their access to the program threatened by PBMs, insurers, and pharmaceutical manufacturers. Earlier in the year, Abigail led a bipartisan letter—signed by 226 Democrats and Republicans in the U.S. House—calling on HHS to defend the integrity of the 340B Program and push back against changes that have led to significant prescription drug cost hikes for Virginia healthcare providers and patients. Later 2021, HHS took long overdue action against companies that are violating 340B laws. (340B Health, 2/26/21; American Prospect, 3/1/21; Rep. Spanberger 3/1/21; Rep. Spanberger, 7/13/21; Culpeper Star-Exponent, 7/13/21)

To Lower Drug Costs, Abigail Introduces Bipartisan Bill to Shine Light on Murky World of Prescription Drug Negotiations

According to a 2021 report, pharmaceutical firms increased prices on a record-breaking 905 brand-name prescription drugs in the month of January 2021 alone. In the face of these rising costs, Abigail introduced bipartisan legislation to tackle the prescription drug affordability crisis and hold pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs) accountable. Her Improving Transparency to Lower Drug Costs Act would require PBMs to report their aggregate rebates, discounts, and other price concessions to a public website. This heightened market transparency would help patients and pharmacists better understand and compare the discounts PBMs receive from drug manufacturers. Additionally, this transparency would allow Members of Congress to take further action to lower drug costs. (VPM, 6/3/21; Rep. Spanberger, 6/3/21; CBS19, 6/4/21)



PROTECTING THE RIGHTS OF ALL VIRGINIANS & INCREASING ACCOUNTABILITY

Abigail Votes to Pass John R. Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act, Restore Key Voter Protections

In August 2021, Abigail joined a majority of the U.S. House in passing legislation that would defend American voters from discrimination and strengthen voter protection measures already on the books. Her vote was in direct response to suppressive electoral laws and practices being implemented across the United States that potentially discourage or prevent eligible voters from participating in our democratic system. Disproportionately, these actions target minority communities, voters with disabilities, and naturalized citizens. (Rep. Spanberger, 8/24/21)

Abigail Votes to Pass George Floyd Justice in Policing Act

In March 2021, Abigail—a former federal law enforcement officer—voted to pass the George Floyd Justice in Policing Act. This legislation that would address issues of systemic racism within law enforcement, protect funding for critical community policing initiatives, and increase accountability in U.S. police departments. In the last Congress, Abigail also cosponsored and voted to pass the initial version of the George Floyd Justice Policing Act in the wake of the brutal murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and others. (Rep. Spanberger, 3/3/21; Culpeper Star-Exponent, 3/4/21; NBC12, 4/20/21; Culpeper Star-Exponent, 5/25/21)

Abigail Votes to Remove ERA Ratification Deadline

In 2020, Virginia became the 38th state in the union to ratify the ERA, hitting the federal threshold for ratification. In March 2021, Abigail voted to remove the ratification deadline on the ERA to the U.S. Constitution. She is a cosponsor of the resolution, H.J. Res. 17. (VPM, 3/17/21; NBC29, 3/17/21; Rep. Spanberger, 3/17/21)

Abigail Cracks Down on Insider Trading, Reintroduces Bipartisan Legislation to Block Members of Congress from Stock Transactions

In January 2021, Abigail led a bipartisan coalition in reintroducing her TRUST in Congress Act, which would prevent insider trading by Members of Congress and increase government accountability. Specifically, her bill would require Members of Congress—as well as their spouses and dependent children—to put certain investment assets into a qualified blind trust during their entire tenure in Congress. By establishing this new firewall between Members and their investments, the TRUST in Congress Act would make sure Members of Congress cannot use their positions to unethically inform investment decisions or influence the value of their existing investments. (Rep. Spanberger, 1/21/21; NBC29, 1/27/21; The Hill, 1/29/21; Daily Beast, 2/1/21; New York Times, 4/10/21; Washington Examiner, Business Insider, 12/13/21; 12/17/21)

Abigail Introduces Bipartisan Bill to Combat Elder Abuse, Protect Rights of Seniors

Recent studies have found that approximately one in 10 seniors has experienced some form of abuse in the last year—including psychological abuse, financial abuse, and neglect. In response, Abigail and U.S. Representative John Katko (R-NY-24) introduced bipartisan legislation in September 2021 to create medical-legal partnerships—multidisciplinary teams that combine clinical staff with social workers and lawyers at a single healthcare site—to improve seniors' access to legal and social services, defend their rights, and protect them from elder abuse. (Rep. Spanberger, 9/15/21)

COMBATTING ADDICTION & SUPPORTING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

As Overdose Deaths Reach Record Levels, Abigail Introduces Bipartisan Bill to Create Permanent Funding Stream for Addiction Recovery Services

To help combat Virginia's rising rate of overdose deaths, Abigail introduced the Support Recovery from Addiction Act. This bipartisan bill would create a permanent 10 percent set-aside within the Substance Abuse Block Grant (SABG) program for recovery support services. This set-aside would require states to spend a portion of their SABG funding on recovery programs with a record of success and peer support specialist programs that help Virginians stay sober. Her bill is supported by several Virginia law enforcement departments and addiction treatment and recovery organizations. (Rep. Spanberger, 8/3/21; Henrico Citizen, 8/10/21; NBC12, 8/11/21; Virginia Mercury, 8/11/21)



Abigail Leads Successful Push to Combat Opioid Epidemic with American Rescue Plan Funds

Abigail recognizes the direct link between the sharp spike in drug overdose deaths and the healthcare, financial, and psychological effects of the pandemic. In May 2021, Abigail led a bipartisan group of colleagues in calling on U.S. Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen to ensure states and localities could use American Rescue Plan funding to combat the substance abuse epidemic in our communities. Following her push, the Treasury Department gave the green light for this funding to go towards local investments in prevention, treatment, and recovery efforts. One week later, Abigail also announced an award of more than \$69.7 million of American Rescue Plan funding for the Virginia Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services to strengthen its mental health and substance abuse-focused programs. (Reuters, 5/5/21; Axios, 5/6/21; Rep. Spanberger, 5/10/21; CBS6, 5/14/21; Culpeper Star-Exponent, 5/18/21)



PRIORITIZING PUBLIC SAFETY & NATIONAL SECURITY

Key House Committee Advances Abigail's Bipartisan Bill to Combat Cybercrime

Cybercrimes continue to rise at an alarming rate—including scams related to the COVID-19 pandemic. In August 2021, Abigail introduced the Better Cybercrime Metrics Act, which would improve how the federal government tracks, measures, analyzes, and prosecutes cybercrime. By starting the process of building an effective system to track cybercrime incidents, her legislation would allow U.S. law enforcement agencies to better identify cyberthreats, prevent attacks, and take on the challenge of cybercrime. The U.S. House Judiciary Committee voted to move her legislation forward in December 2021—and her bill has been endorsed by several national law enforcement organizations, including the National Fraternal Order of Police. (The Hill, 8/5/21; The Hill, 8/30/21; Rep. Spanberger, 10/5/21; NBC29, 11/29/21; Rep. Spanberger, 12/8/21)

In Wake of Cyberattacks like Colonial Pipeline Hack, Spanberger Leads Major, Bipartisan Effort to Protect Critical Infrastructure

The United States lacks a truly comprehensive understanding of what constitutes “systemically important critical infrastructure,” or SICI. As a result, the federal government does not have a formal process for identifying and strengthening protections for this subset of critical infrastructure that—if disrupted—would have a debilitating effect on America’s national security, economy, public health, or supply chains. Abigail’s Securing Systemically Important Critical Infrastructure Act would help establish a transparent process for designating SICI and direct the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) to take steps to protect it. Abigail co-led this effort with U.S. Representative John Katko (R-NY-24), Ranking Member of the U.S. House Homeland Security Committee. (The Hill, 10/5/21; Rep. Spanberger 10/7/21; Culpeper Star-Exponent, 10/7/21)

Abigail Reintroduces Child RESCUE Act to Crack Down on Child Exploitation & Abuse

Over the last 15 years, images involving child sexual abuse have increased by more than 400 percent in the United States. To protect Virginia children from sexual exploitation and abuse, Abigail and U.S. Representative Ben Cline (R-VA-06) reintroduced their Child RESCUE Act, which would create a national commission to study proactive strategies and identify the resources needed to locate and rescue children from sexual exploitation and abuse. The bipartisan Child RESCUE Act is supported by several child protection and anti-exploitation advocacy organizations—including the Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network (RAINN), National Criminal Justice Training Center, National Children’s Alliance, and National District Attorney’s Association. (Virginia Scope, 11/8/21; Rep. Spanberger, 11/8/21)





Abigail Votes to Close Background Check Loopholes, Leads Effort Calling on U.S. Senate to Pass Commonsense Gun Violence Prevention Legislation

In March 2021, Abigail joined a bipartisan majority of the U.S. House in passing legislation to close existing background check loopholes and make sure that individuals already prohibited from gun possession under federal law are unable to purchase firearms. Following its passage in the U.S. House, Abigail and U.S. Representative Joe Neguse (D-CO-02) led a wide coalition of 65 House Members in urging U.S. Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer (D-NY) to bring two gun safety bills to the floor of the U.S. Senate for a vote. (Politico, 3/31/21; CBS News, 3/31/21; Rep. Spanberger, 4/2/21; The Hill 4/4)

Abigail Introduces Bipartisan Bill to Incorporate Community Trust into Police Metrics

In June 2021, Abigail led the introduction of a bipartisan bill that would help improve police statistics, strengthen community policing initiatives, and study best practices for including measures of community trust in police metrics.

Her Measuring What Matters Act would establish a federal working group to develop best practices for incorporating community feelings of trust into official evaluations—alongside traditional crime statistics and other performance measures. Abigail's bill is endorsed by the ACLU, Fraternal Order of Police, National Sheriffs Association, and NAACP. (Rep. Spanberger, 6/25/21)

U.S. House Passes Abigail's Legislation to Crack Down on Foreign-Backed Disinformation Efforts

The U.S. House voted in March 2021 to pass Abigail's legislation to protect against the influence of foreign nations that seek to sow political division in the United States through online disinformation campaigns. Her Foreign Agent Disclaimer Enhancement (FADE) Act would increase transparency by requiring disclaimers attributing political content to a foreign principal be embedded on the face of a social media post itself. With this new requirement, disclaimers would remain with a post whenever the post is subsequently shared. (The Hill, 1/22/21; Rep. Spanberger, 3/3/21; The Hill, 3/4/21)

KEEPING VIRGINIA COMPETITIVE

Following Abigail's Push, President Biden Takes Additional Steps to Lower Virginia Gas Prices & Address Supply Chains Issues

As Virginia gas prices increased in November 2021, Abigail pressed President Biden to tap U.S. petroleum reserves to boost domestic supply and put downward pressure on prices at the pump for Virginia families. Following this effort, the Biden Administration announced plans to release oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve and further address supply chain disruptions. Earlier that week, Abigail also called on President Biden to appoint a "Supply Chain Czar" to help address pervasive supply chain disruptions and delivery delays, which have negatively impacted thousands of Virginians. (The Hill, 11/22/21, 8News, 12/23/21; Rep. Spanberger 11/23/21, Newsweek, 11/24/21; CBS19, 11/25/21)

At VCU, Abigail Announces Introduction of the bipartisan PREPARE Act to Increase Domestic Drug Production & Create New Virginia Jobs

America depends on other countries for a range of pharmaceutical products—including many active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) that are essential for producing generic prescription drugs. These drugs make up approximately 90 percent of all prescriptions filled in the United States—but about 87 percent of API facilities for generic medicines are located in foreign countries. In September 2021, Abigail introduced her bipartisan and bicameral PREPARE Act, which would create an emergency supply of key ingredients used in essential generic medicines and incentivize domestic manufacturing of these ingredients. This bill would also help create and support thousands of new jobs in Virginia's burgeoning biopharmaceutical sector and strengthen America's domestic pharmaceutical supply chain. (Richmond Times-Dispatch, 9/27/21; Rep. Spanberger, 9/27/21; VCU News, 9/28/21)

U.S. Chamber of Commerce Gives Abigail Special Awards for Supporting Virginia Businesses, Working Across the Aisle During COVID-19 Crisis

In June 2021, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce awarded Abigail with its "Abraham Lincoln Leadership for America Award" and the "Jefferson-Hamilton Award for Bipartisanship." The "Abraham Lincoln" award recognizes Members of Congress based on their cosponsorship of legislation important to the business community. This prestigious recognition is presented to the top Senators and Representatives from both parties. The "Jefferson-Hamilton" award is presented to the top Senators and Representatives from each party who consistently work across party lines to introduce legislation that is important to small businesses and their employees. She is the only Member of Virginia's congressional delegation to receive either award. (U.S. Chamber of Commerce, 6/17/21; Rep. Spanberger, 6/18/21)





Abigail Beefs Up Livestock Supply Chains, Hosts USDA Leaders in Orange County

In December 2021, Abigail brought U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) officials to Orange County to meet directly with Virginia livestock producers and highlight USDA's announcement of major funding to back private investment in local processing and food supply infrastructure. These investments will help eliminate bottlenecks in the food supply chain and ensure fairer prices for livestock producers through funding made possible by the American Rescue Plan, which Abigail voted to pass in March 2021. And in the wake of the JBS hack, Abigail also introduced bipartisan legislation—the Meat Packing Special Investigator Act—to tackle anticompetitive, monopolistic practices in the meat and poultry industries. (Politico, 6/23/21; Rep. Spanberger 12/16/21; NBC29, 12/16/21; CBS19)

Abigail Pushes for U.S. Postal Service Mail & Delivery Improvements

Since the pandemic began, Abigail has sought direct feedback from Virginians on the impacts of mail and delivery service delays—and she has worked to support Virginia's hardworking postal employees. In March 2021, she received more than 3,700 individual survey responses from Virginians highlighting significant delays in deliveries and shipments of cell phone bills, tax documents, orders for small businesses, prescription drugs, and more. She received an additional 1,500 responses when she relaunched her survey in October 2021. Following this feedback, Abigail has directly pressed the U.S. Postal Service to address delays. (CBS6, 2/23/21; Rep. Spanberger, 3/2/21; Fredericksburg Free Lance-Star, 10/8/21; NBC12, 10/8/21; CBS19, 10/11/21; NBC29, 10/22/21)

Abigail's Provisions to Support Trucking Workforce Signed into Law

The bipartisan Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act includes a bipartisan amendment led by Abigail to modernize regulations on truckers hauling livestock. Additionally, this provision will help reduce congestion, prevent supply chain issues, and tackle delays in the meat industry. The bipartisan infrastructure law also includes an Abigail-cosponsored provision establishing a pilot program to help those ages 18 to 21 enter the trucking workforce. (Bloomberg Government, 11/4/21; MSNBC, 11/16/21; Culpeper Star-Exponent, 11/22/21; Rep. Spanberger, 12/7/21)

Abigail Removes Concerning IRS Provisions from Proposed Build Back Better Framework

During Build Back Better negotiations in the fall of 2021, Abigail strongly pushed for the removal of a burdensome provision requiring banks to provide the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) with details on customers with accounts worth more than \$600. Following her efforts, the widely criticized provision was removed from the House-passed version of the legislation. (The Hill, 10/26/21; 8News, 11/15/21; Rep. Spanberger, 11/19/21)



Abigail Protects Virginia Family Farms from Burdensome Tax Hikes

Throughout 2021, Abigail worked to successfully prevent changes to the stepped-up basis for capital gains in U.S. tax law that would hurt family farms from being included in the Build Back Better framework. In May 2021, Abigail pushed House leadership to exempt family-owned farms in Central Virginia and across the country from any potential stepped-up basis changes in the package. Maintaining the current provision is a critical priority for family-owned farms in Virginia and across the country—and Abigail's push was supported by the Virginia Farm Bureau Federation. The changes were not included in the House-passed version of the bill in November 2021. (Wall Street Journal, 5/6/21; Roll Call, 5/6/21; Rep. Spanberger, 5/12/21; AP, 9/12/21; Rep. Spanberger 11/19/21)



SUPPORTING VIRGINIA'S SERVICEMEMBERS, NATIONAL GUARD MEMBERS, & VETERANS

President Signs into Law Abigail's Legislation to Mark National Atomic Veterans Day Every Year

In December 2021, President Biden signed into law Abigail's legislation to recognize Atomic Veterans as part of the 2022 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). Due to their exposure to unsafe levels of radiation during their service, many Atomic Veterans developed serious health complications. And as these veterans were sworn to secrecy, most were prevented from seeking medical care or disability compensation and were never fully recognized for their sacrifice. Abigail's bipartisan legislation recognizes the service and sacrifice of Atomic Veterans by requiring the President to issue a proclamation every year calling on the United States to observe National Atomic Veterans Day. (8News, 7/16/2021; Rep. Spanberger, 12/27/21; CBS19, 12/27/21)

Through Bipartisan Bill, Spanberger Presses VA to Address Effects of Jet Fuel among U.S. Veterans

Studies show that long-term exposure to jet fuel among veterans can be a significant factor in developing neurological diseases—such as Parkinson's disease. However, the VA does not currently recognize the service connection. Abigail led a bipartisan effort in June 2021 to ensure veterans suffering from neurological diseases due to their exposure to jet fuel receive the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) support and benefits they deserve. Her William Collins Jet Fuel Exposure Recognition Act is named after William G. Collins—a U.S. Air Force veteran and Louisa County resident living with Parkinson's. The VA does not recognize Mr. Collins' condition as having a service connection. (Rep. Spanberger, 6/28/21; CBS19, 7/5/21; 8News, 7/6/21)

U.S. House Passes Abigail's Bills to Repeal Outdated War Authorizations, Prevent Abuses of Executive Power

A bipartisan majority of the U.S. House of Representatives in June 2021 voted to pass Abigail's two bipartisan bills to prevent abuses of presidential power and repeal outdated, inactive Authorizations for the Use of Military Force (AUMFs)—including the 1991 AUMF against Iraq. Earlier that month, she also joined a bipartisan majority of the U.S. House in voting to repeal the 2002 Iraq War AUMF. Abigail's repeal of the 1991 AUMF is endorsed by several veteran-focused and foreign policy organizations—including the American Legion, VoteVets, Concerned Veterans for America, Foreign Policy for America, R Street Institute, and the Project on Government Oversight. (Newsweek, 6/1/21; Virginia Public Radio, 6/28/21; Wall Street Journal, 6/29/21; Rep. Spanberger, 6/29/21)





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If you would like to follow Rep. Spanberger's progress and receive timely updates, resources, and information about her work in the U.S. House, go to [Spanberger.house.gov](https://spanberger.house.gov) to sign up for Rep. Spanberger's weekly newsletter.

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